2013 - the Year for Health!

According to the Chinese Zodiac, 2013 is the Year of the Snake. Since two snakes are featured on the Caduceus, it’s a nice coincidence that we’re dedicating the year to consumer health information. CEFLS consultants have been busy “bundling” resources made possible by funding support and professional expertise into an “umbrella” health initiative. The result is authoritative consumer health information in accessible formats on topics that concern area residents of all ages.

Take a look at our frequently updated guide to health information at http://cefls.libguides.com, where you’ll find books, ebooks, apps, videos, events, and more on selected health topics. More topics will be added throughout the year. Elsewhere in this issue, you’ll find information on Access on Demand Health Videos purchased with project funds, and a description of two training sessions that will be offered in April by the National Network of Libraries of Medicine.

Our generous supporters to date include The Northern New York Library Network, which awarded CEFLS $10,000 for our “Piloting the Shoals of Consumer Health Information” project. Locally, the CVPH Foundation contributed $2,500 for books, and our friends at the Plattsburgh Lions Club awarded us $1,000 for e-books. Other partners, including the Clinton County Health Department, Employee Assistance Services, and Mountain Lake PBS, are lending us professional support which is invaluable as we mount the project.

Throughout this issue, you’ll find information about various facets of this project—from on demand videos to CE training by the National Network of Libraries of Medicine.

Information is power - let’s get healthy!
News From Clinton County

Rouses Point Dodge Memorial Library

Great News! Recently the Dodge Memorial Library received two grants through the North Country Cultural Center for the Arts in the amount of $2,071.19. These grants will be used for Outreach Programs including summer reading program events and an adult pastels painting workshop. An art show will be held in the fall to display works for art from participants in this art class and a previous class held during the fall of 2012.

Renovations are underway for a new bathroom that will be handicap accessible. A huge thank you to the Village of Rouses Point Public Works and Electric Department for taking on this project!

During January Betsy Brooks and Chad Chase held an e-reader class which was repeated in late February. I taught computer classes in January and February for Basic Computer and Internet/Email. We hope to hold a Digital Camera class in the spring. I participated in the Digital Literacy Training in Glens Falls last September. CEF has been generous in loaning laptop computers for these classes.

Other outreach programs that are held at the library on a weekly basis are story hour and knit/crochet group. On a monthly basis the Book Club meets on the last Thursday of the month at 7:00 p.m. The book club has been meeting for almost three years and continues to grow with participants.

On Thursday, February 28, we held our first Pinterest Night. Pinterest seems to be the new rage and is sparking a great deal of interest. The event will be held once a month from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. Attendees will be able to share ideas, provide a “show & tell” of pins and help each other to maneuver through the site.

-Donna Boumil, Library Director

RDA is Coming Our Way!

Big changes are coming to the world of cataloging in libraries. Although we hope the transformation will be relatively seamless to users, new cataloging rules will bring some adjustments for us. The new cataloging standard is called RDA (Resource Description and Analysis). We at CEFLS generally try to follow the trends and examples set by the Library of Congress, which means we have to give serious consideration to how far into RDA we plan to go: the Library of Congress plans to adopt RDA in March of this year.

We’ve been studying, examining, discussing and training ourselves in the nuances of RDA. There seems to be a great deal of attention paid to the theoretical side of cataloging. One of the goals of the new standard is to remove any interpretation of information from the hands of the catalogers, making the descriptions of items as precise as possible. This means that there will be no more abbreviations in descriptive cataloging (I’ll. For Illustrations, p. for pages—that sort of thing). And, no more Latin abbreviations, which none of us could translate anyway. Stay tuned!

--Elizabeth Rogers, CEFLS

Former bookmobile driver Bob Welch has rejoined the CEFLS staff as a van driver on the Wednesday route. Bill Bowen has taken over the Monday run. We welcome both drivers to our staff!

The North Star Underground Railroad Museum in Ausable Chasm is offering a free slide and lecture program for your library. The North Star Museum explores the controversies and contributions of the North Country communities as they helped fugitive slaves escape to freedom before the Civil War. The new presentation emphasizes local history, even as the entire United States marks the 150th Anniversary of the Civil War and Abraham Lincoln. Presenters can focus on an adult audience or on a presentation for young people. To schedule a program, contact the Museum at 518-834-5180, or send an email to ugr@frontier.com.

For more information about the Museum, visit the web site at www.northcountryundergroundrailroad.com.
Clinton County news continued...

Dannemora Free Library

The Dannemora Library was awarded $750 in books from the Libri Foundation, which we'll put to good use.

We also held our first story hour in quite awhile and it was a wonderful success. We will be doing story hours on a monthly basis until May, and then we will be doing them every week or other week starting in September.

--Penny Belton, Director

Dodge Library, West Chazy

The boy scouts and girl scouts visited us in January. The boy scouts had training on library procedures and several received their first library cards during the visit. The girl scouts used the wireless service and were able to bring in their own laptops. It is cookie season and this service offered through our library allowed them to access cookie applications.

Jolene Wallace, Master Gardener, with Cornell Cooperative Extension will present a program on Saturday, March 16 from 12:30 till 2:00 p.m. The program is designed to help plan and optimize spring garden success. She'll speak about both perennial and vegetable gardens.

I have recently returned from a three month medical absence. I thank everyone that sent warm get well wishes and prayers my way. They were greatly appreciated. I would also like to thank Jody Helfgott and Tori Taber for filling in for me. I have heard wonderful words from patrons and it means a lot. I was able to return to work with the full knowledge that Dodge Library was in good hands. Ladies, thank you so very, very much.

-Linda Dupee, Director

Chazy Public Library

New and used book donations have been steadily streaming in, filling the new shelves we added during our expansion. Special thanks goes out to Trustee Debby Powers, who has processed over 400 new books for circulation. She has been assisted by Trustee Tina Trombly, who has been meticulously going through our shelves, pulling out old titles and repairing covers and labels. Kay and Lee Kern have been busily adding titles to our collection as well. They have donated a total of $1,000 toward new titles in all genres and their funds will be triple-matched by Grainger, giving the donation a total value of $3,000. We are so thankful for their generosity, and for the time that Kay puts into our library as a substitute for Francie.

Bob and Joann Trombley stopped by the library recently, along with Karen O’Conner, to present a beautiful stained glass piece in memory of their friend, long time library supporter Cindy Bodine. The framed work is a pastoral scene with ponies from "Bonnie's Best Day" by James Harris. "This was a favorite story of her daughters, Allison and Katie Bodine, and one of Cindy's favorite children's authors," said Joann. Artist Andrew Beath created the work, which is on display now in the children's section of the library. Thank you so much Bob, Joann and Karen! We have posted a picture of the piece on our Facebook page.

The 6th grade class from Chazy Elementary paid us a visit with their donation of free books earned through their Scholastic Book Sale. Elementary Librarian Karen Pepper helped choose the titles and the 6th graders got to deliver them as a reward for being the class with the most sales from the event.

Many used books can be found for great prices in our newly finished community room, which features a complete kitchen, a coffee bar, and ongoing book sale, a business center and space to gather for meetings and small celebrations. There is no charge for use of the community room, which can be reserved at the circulation desk.

We also are thrilled to announce the receipt of $5,000 from an anonymous donor towards the construction of a gazebo and walkway behind the library. The gazebo will provide a peaceful oasis to sit and read and for possible future concerts and storytelling on the grounds.

-Angela Swan, Trustee, Chazy Public Library
TRAILBLAZER

A Report from the Field:

Samantha Baer Attends the Indie (Independent Author Signing) Event in Chicago

With the advent of e readers, the face of publishing is changing. Many writers who couldn’t get published by a traditional publishing company used the option to self publish and it is proving to be very lucrative. Consumers are now getting a “say” in what they want to read and publishers are taking notice.

From September 28-30 I had the privilege of traveling to Chicago to attend the TFEiC Author Meet and Greet. The guest authors were Tracey Garvis-Graves, Colleen Hoover, Abbi Glines, CJ Roberts, Dina Silver, Elizabeth Hunter, Elizabeth Reyes, J. Sterling, Jillian Dodd, Liz Reinhardt, Michelle Mankin, Nicole Williams, Rebecca Donovan, S.C. Stephens, Stephanie Campbell, Tara Sivec and Tarryn Fisher. If you don’t recognize these names, you soon will. Out of these 17 authors, eight have publishing deals and two have had their books optioned for movies.

Upon our arrival at the conference, we went to the Palmer Hilton to meet up with S.C. Stephens (remember her name, because she will be huge), and some other authors. This whole experience was surreal for me because it was my birthday and I got to spend it with some of the people who have written my favorite books. One of the moments I will never forget is when CJ Roberts checked her email on her phone and there was an offer from a publishing company. There were five of us standing there and we all cried. I can’t think of anyone who deserves it more, because she is brilliant!

Saturday was crazy busy. We arrived at the Palmer Hilton to begin setup for the event. I somehow ended up with VIP status and worked a table with CJ Roberts. The thing that moved me the most was how humble some of the writers were. SC Stephens was so nervous and worried that she wouldn’t sell any books. She had the longest line in the place and sold out in an hour. The meet and greet/book signing lasted four hours and then we moved on to the book blogger Q&A session. We learned about the creative process and who some of the writers were inspired by. All of the authors had received numerous rejection letters from publishers informing them that no one wanted to read their books. The authors gave credit to the readers/bloggers for helping to change the face of publishing.

--Samantha Bauer, Wilmington

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Book Club Basics

Book clubs have become a staple in the fabric of American life, which has been a good thing for libraries. Sometimes libraries sponsor or host book club meetings, sometimes we just act as facilitators to get the books in the hands of readers. Here are a few tips for creating a good, lasting book club:

--Choose a demographic: if there’s to be a focus on a particular genre or type of literature, make it a match for the prospective members.

--Pick books that are less than 400 pages: about 300 pages seems to be ideal.

--Be realistic with your schedule: most book clubs meet about once a month. This is a realistic goal.

--Incorporate food: I think this is sort of universal. Some groups do dinners, some just snacks or desserts. Be sure to rotate who brings what.

--Allow for some hang out time: let group members relax and settle in before launching a rousing discussion of the book.

-Elizabeth Rogers, CEFLS

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Something to Celebrate!

People in libraries are always looking for something to celebrate, and an excellent resource for finding good reasons is readily available online. Chase’s Calendar of Events used to be available only in print, but thanks to the digital age a basic version is available free online. It’s a long address, http://www.mhprofessional.com/templates/chases/ but there’s a goldmine of information there.

March is a busy month: aside from being International Mirth Month, we also celebrate National Craft Month, National Nutrition Month, Red Cross Month, and most notably National Women’s History Month.

--Elizabeth Rogers, CEFLS
Video Conferencing Comes of Age

Video conferencing is a growing market right now, thanks to a quantum leap in the ease of use of modern equipment compared to the last generation. It used to be necessary to have a technician on hand to operate video conferencing systems, and quality was poor, resulting in many installed systems gathering dust in a corner of a corporate conference room. The new systems are much easier to use, and quality has improved dramatically.

CEFLS has joined some other systems around the state in purchasing video conferencing equipment with funds from the Federal Broadband Technology Opportunities Program, which also funded job skills and digital literacy training. The equipment we purchased at the end of 2012 is from Lifesize, and has been installed in the conference room at CEFLS, and also in Saranac Lake, Schroon Lake and Malone. The Akwesasne Library had a Polycom system installed as part of a grant, and we have established a successful video link with them as well.

So far, we have used the equipment for two CEFCAT meetings and a CEFLS Board meeting. The main benefit in each case was to save travel for participants, especially in the winter. These experiences have been pretty encouraging, and the travel time and expense saved have already been substantial. I was very pleased with how well our remote participants did in operating the equipment without assistance.

In the next few months, I will be working on a policy for the use of the equipment at each location, and some written instructions for operating it. I know it will be useful for meetings, but I would love to see some other uses which could really benefit the public.

The video conferencing world will continue to evolve, and the next wave will include less expensive equipment that can interact with many different devices such as smart phones and tablets. I can imagine a time when all of the public libraries in our area will have equipment and spaces that can be used to allow patrons and staff to attend events anywhere in the world, chat with authors and experts, or simply have a high quality meeting with faraway friends, relatives or associates.

--Betsy Brooks, CEFLS

Essex County News

Sherman Free Library, Port Henry

We had a good attendance for the November 29 “how to” program on downloadable audiobooks that Betsy Brooks gave. Many people in the community received e-readers for Christmas and are starting to take advantage of the books on Overdrive.

Our book discussion group recently added two new members and members are enjoying discussing a variety of books.

- Jackie Viestenz, Director

Wilmington E.M. Cooper Library

It is that time of year where things have slowed down at the library. It gives us the chance to get caught up on fun tasks such as reports and weeding.

Our Friends of the Library sale was a success. There was a huge turnout and the cookies were beautiful and delicious! We are very fortunate to have such a wonderful Friends group.

-Samantha Baer, Director

Wadhams Free Library

Here at the Wadhams Free Library we try to stay open as much as possible through snow and sleet, gloom of night, etc., but sometimes we think, “well, no one’s going to come out in this, maybe we should go home early.” But then several people come in, happy to find us open, and we’re happy to be here.

Our Wednesdays in Wadhams lecture series will resume sometime in March, when teachers from Lakeside School, a pre-school through third grade Waldorf school in Essex, will give us their views on the state of education in America. On April 10th, Rhonda Butler from Asgaard Farm in Au Sable Forks will talk about cheesemaking. On April 24, Ted Cornell will tell us about farming art at his Crooked Brook Studios. Other topics awaiting dates are poetry, horses, emergency response, and more cheese.

We’re looking forward to our Waffle Frittata Extravaganza Sunday Brunch fundraiser, sponsored by Dogwood Bread Company, sometime in April.

This summer, Kathy Leichter will show her new documentary film Here One Day about her extraordinary mother Nina, who struggled with bipolar disorder.

New York State will start rebuilding the Boquet River bridge next to us this spring. We’re not sure how much disruption the construction will cause us but there will probably be a whole lot of shaking going on.

--Liz Rappalee, Director
**Essex County News continued...**

**Paine Memorial Library, Willsboro**

The Paine Memorial Free Library held its Annual Holiday Sale from December 3 through December 21. Fourteen local vendors brought their photography, knitting, quilting, baskets, jams and jellies, jewelry, baked goods, and turned wooden items in to sell. The library benefited from 20% of the sales. There was a Holiday Basket raffle compliments of the Friends of the Library. Patrons commented that it was nice to be able to shop locally for Christmas presents!

Keeping with the Holiday theme, our Story Hour children enjoyed decorating a large gingerbread house that was prepared and donated by our board member, Linda Heintz. We have eight three-year olds registered in Friday Story Hour this year. Currently, story hour runs from 9:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. on Friday mornings from September through the end of June when summer story hour commences. Both of our first grade classes from Willsboro Central School took a trip to the library for a tour and to check out books.

On the music scene, we provide free banjo lessons from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. every Sunday morning. At 10:00 a.m. other musicians join us for a jam session. We also are open for jam sessions on Thursday evenings at 6:30 p.m. Check out the calendar on our new website, Painefreelibrary.webs.com for a complete schedule.

Lately technology is always on the forefront of our planning. WCS student Marshall Steeves provided a session on how to download e-books to kindles and nooks. Dennis Kalma, volunteer, provides computer training every Monday morning. While his goal is to teach patrons how to use the Cloud and Excel spreadsheets, he is open to helping people at all skill levels expand their expertise.

On February 10 we held "Chocolate Tasting for the Serious Chocolate Lover". This well attended event is a real highlight in February. While everyone was sampling some of the most decadent chocolate desserts, Donna Jorge, local musician, serenaded us with Folk Music. It's just the kind of event we needed on a cold February day!

---Cheryl Blanchard, Director

**Take a Bite of Books Group Plans 8th Competition**

2013 marks the 8th year of the “Take a Bite Out of Books” program. The 2013 “Battle of the Books” will be held at Champlain Centre Mall in Plattsburgh, on Saturday, June 29, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Children who are currently in grades five, six or seven are eligible to take part. Participating libraries, so far this year, are: Plattsburgh Public Library, Rouses Point Library, Saranac Lake Library, Schroon Lake Library, and Wilmington Library. There is still time for more CEFLS libraries to put together one or more teams to participate.

In order to take part in this “reading for pleasure” activity, tween participants read five fiction books and one non-fiction book, then compete for prizes in a Jeopardy style competition. This year’s books are: Because of Mr. Terupt by Rob Buyea; The Dragon’s Tooth by N.D. Wilson; Extra Credit by Andrew Clements; Gregor the Overlander by Suzanne Collins; and Woods Runner by Gary Paulsen. This year’s non-fiction quiz title is How They Croaked: The Awful Ends of the Awful Famous by Georgia Bragg.

We are very pleased to have received two grants this year, including $1,300 from the local Chapel Hill Foundation and $300 from Plattsburgh Noon Kiwanis. We are seeking additional grant funding.

Participating libraries must have at least four tweens/teens (5, if you wish to have an alternate) to constitute a team. One set of quiz books per library will be purchased with grant money. It is recommended (but not required) that you secure at least one Coach so that your library can hold “Coaching Meetings” to practice for the Battle. “Coaching Meetings” can be flexible depending on the needs of your team. Some teams meet weekly or bi-weekly, for half an hour, 45 minutes, or an hour. They can be led by a Coach who is a library staff member, a parent, grandparent or guardian.

Continued on next page...
TRAILBLAZER

Essex County news continued

Wells Memorial Library, Upper Jay

Artist Grace Potthast will exhibit her work at the library in March and April. Grace recently taught a ten-week class at the library on Observational Drawing, thanks to a “Creative Aging” grant from Lifetime Arts Inc. and the U.S. Institute of Museum and Library Services. Artwork from the class was on display through February. Family, friends, and neighbors of participants filled the library at a reception on January 6 in celebration of the class and the exhibit. Participants were enthusiastic about the class and appreciative that the library was able to offer it. We plan to apply for another Lifetime Arts grant for Grace to teach a plein air watercolor workshop this summer/fall.

Arati Shah-Yukich offered “Discover Healing Powers of Your Breath and Sounds: a Guided Meditation Session to Enable You to Experience Centering and Energizing” in October in celebration of Mahatma Gandhi’s birthday. In addition to holding a PhD in Biomedical Physics, Arati has trained in vocal Indian classical music and has given solo concerts in USA, India and France to raise awareness and funds for social and environmental causes.

On November 17 Sandra Fallon gave a Climate Change Presentation at the library. “The Climate Reality Project consists of more than 3,000 dedicated volunteers around the globe who are personally trained by former Vice President and Nobel Laureate Al Gore to educate the public about climate change. Climate Reality Climate Leaders have reached a worldwide audience of more than 7.3 million people and are committed to preserving the climate balance upon which humanity depends. More information about the Climate Reality Project can be found at http://climaterealityproject.org.

--Elizabeth Rogers, CEFLS

Health Videos on Demand: A Health Project Resource

Now showing in your own home! Almost 2000 free videos on a wide variety of health-related topics. Through a grant from NNLYN, CEFLS has purchased a subscription to Access Video on Demand, which allows us to offer streaming videos free of charge to all registered borrowers. When your Netflix well runs dry, take a look at these videos—you can watch them anywhere, anytime, with a computer and a high-speed Internet connection.

You don't have to download the entire video before viewing it, and you can search for just the right video by keyword, subject, etc. The subscription includes public performance rights so these videos can be shown to groups. There are no restrictions on simultaneous viewing: any number of people can watch the same film at the same time. Videos can be played on mobile devices; some have closed captioning; some have interactive transcripts, so you can view the text while viewing the film. All of this is available through our website (http://www.cefls.org). Once at our site, click on ACCESS VIDEO.

--Elizabeth Rogers, CEFLS

Teams are also welcome to meet on their own outside of the library. Some cool “reading for pleasure” activities might include a TABOB pool party with kids making up their own questions from the books and quizzing each other; a TABOB sleepover party, or a TABOB party, with an adult seating the kids at a table as if they were a team, quizzing them, and having the kids whack the table when they’d like to answer a question.)

To recruit team members, we suggest sending flyers or notices to librarians, reading and English teachers at your local schools, as well as marketing the program to tweens and teens who already frequent your library. If library staff has time, making a presentation to 5th to 7th graders at their schools is a good way of marketing the program. For a printable, modifiable flyer to advertise the books, please call or e-mail Sharon Bandhold (536-7445); bandholds@cityofplattsburgh-ny.gov.

If you would like to participate, or for more information, please contact Jackie Viestenz at Sherman Free Library in Port Henry as soon as possible by telephone at 546-7461, or e-mail flibrar1@nycap.rr.com

-Sharon Bandhold, Youth Services Librarian, PPL

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Essex County continued

Upper Jay News continued from page 7

Storyteller Cailin Mulvey held a staged reading of *A Christmas Carol* on Boxing Day that was enjoyed by the participants and library patrons. In January, Natalie Woods presented a children’s Story/Art program, based on Kate Messner’s *Over and Under the Snow*. Natalie returned on Saturday, February 16 with another Story/Art program for ages five and up. Lora Goulet brought stories and songs to the library to commemorate Martin Luther King, Jr.’s birthday. Julie Robinson Robards presents music appreciation for ages 3-6 the first Saturday of the month from 10:30 to 11:15 a.m. It’s a grand, fun time with motion songs, rhythm instruments and storytime.

-Karen Rappaport, Director

Westport Library Association

The Westport Library recently purchased two Amazon Kindle e-readers which are available for check out by library patrons. Each Kindle is preloaded with over 30 titles from a variety of genres. It is a good opportunity for people who have never used an e-reader to see what all the fuss is about or “try before they buy.” The ability to adjust font size is wonderful for those who prefer large print books and the easy availability of the classics (and low price of absolutely free) is another bonus.

Our Holiday Party/Silent Auction was a big hit again back in November. We ended the year with a very successful winter campaign. We are extremely grateful to our donors who continue to show great support for the library even during difficult economic times.

With the New Year we have reinvigorated our plan to create an archive and “Adirondack Room” featuring our extensive collection of local materials. Our vision is to have a comfortable place for the public to be able to come and view our special collection as well as being able to access some of the information online. We have applied for the Conservation/Preservation grant in order to help make this a reality. Hopefully by summer we will be very close to completion.

-Dan Van Olpen, Director

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2013 Library Legislation
Talking Points

Share these facts and figures!

NNYLN Director John Hammond prepared these legislative talking points for local library advocates’ January 25 meeting with Senator Betty Little. Feel free to use them, as well as the NYLA Legislative Priorities found on the NYLA web site (www.nyla.org) in your “talks” with local decision makers. A pdf version of this information is available on the CEF web site (www.cefls.org) under the Advocacy page. Please print it out to share with your local funders.

Stay tuned for details about Library Legislation Day which will be held this year on Tuesday, March 15. A car pool from CEFLS is planned. Why not plan to ride along and tell your library’s story?

- Goal for State Aid to Libraries is restoration of library aid to 2008 level of $102 million over a one or two year process.

- Libraries are part of New York’s economic recovery and future:
  - They provide job-force training and job search assistance
  - They offer broadband access to individuals
  - They offer pre-K education preparation and
  - They provide support for students to meet college and career-ready standards

- Library systems save municipalities, libraries, schools and taxpayers money by
  - Coordinating cooperative purchase and use of the latest technologies, including digitization projects, e-books, and Internet access
  - Providing delivery services for the sharing of materials between libraries
  - Presenting programs of professional development and training for library staff and trustees on site, online and through video conferencing
  - Operating shared computer networks for the circulation of materials and access to online catalogs of resources, reference requests, and electronic databases
  - Centralizing the collaborative purchase of materials and databases
  - Centralizing the collaborative purchase of materials and databases
  - Providing hands-on support for the successful implementation of the Common Core and increased student success

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More News from Essex County

Belden Noble Memorial Library, Essex

As part of the town-wide celebration called The Magic of Christmas in Essex, over sixty people visited the library on December 1 to browse the items donated to our silent auction by residents and local businesses. The wide variety of items generated lots of interest and the bidding was lively! The highlight of the day came at 4:00 p.m. when Steven Kellogg read A Christmas Memory by Truman Capote. The audience was moved by Steven’s heartfelt rendition of this story.

On January 17, Mary-Nell Bockman presented Singing for Change, covering the history of the protest song from the days of the American Revolution to the present. The talk featured many audio and video clips, complemented by live versions by the Wannabes. The evening ended with everyone singing Blowin’ in the Wind.

Several local poets came to the library on January 30 to share inspired (and inspiring) poems at our first Poetry Open Mic event, a wintertime version of the poetry series begun at the Adirondack Art Association last summer. We plan to continue these events, which are open to every kind of poet, every kind of poetry.

We have joined with the Paine Memorial library in hosting music jams in the library. The jams will alternate between Willsboro and Essex, with our events scheduled for the last Thursday of the month.

-Tom Mangano, Director

Like This Link:

Library Link of the Day is a painless way to keep current. To subscribe, go to http://www.tk421.net/librarylink/
**Featured Library:**
*A Look at the Goff-Nelson Memorial Library, Tupper Lake*

The Goff-Nelson Memorial Library in Tupper Lake was started by a group of women who sponsored a "book shower" about 1914. Through a house-to-house canvass, they managed to collect 101 volumes. The books were housed in the librarian's home at first, and the dedication and tenacity of Mrs. Damian Searle is credited with keeping the goal of a library alive during some trying early years. Town officials weren't overly concerned about having a library, and taxpayer support was scant. At the spring election in 1915 they approved a $12,000 investment to rebuild the Junction road by a vote of nearly two to one—but the proposition to raise $300 for the library squeaked through by a single vote.

Mrs. Searle continued as librarian while the library was housed for a time in the old Empire Hotel, and later when it moved to the basement of the old town hall. In a unique situation, the room immediately behind the library was used as the village lock-up, and library patrons were frequently "treated" to impromptu concerts by bibulous prisoners. In 1932, the Tupper library became registered under the New York State Education Department.

March 14, 1942 was a black day for the library. Fire which destroyed the town hall left the public library literally homeless, its holdings in a shambles. Truckloads of water-soaked and smoke-damaged books were hauled over to the old primary school building on Church St. and dumped on the floor. The records and files, plus a few books were salvaged, and Mrs. Jennie Bruce took them to her home to sort, clean and dry. Before the fire, there were about 6,000 books. By the end of May, she had managed, with the aid of friends, to salvage 537.

Neither town nor village was too anxious to take on the responsibility of rebuilding and maintaining the public library, and it is largely to the credit of Mrs. Bruce that it survived. The Tupper Lake Central School District was better able financially to aid the library without undue burden on the taxpayers, and it has supported it ever since.

On Nov. 22, 1961 the library was closed for two months for renovation. A transformation took place before it reopened in January, 1962. The floor space had been doubled; a reference room, charge area and librarian's work room had been added; an attractive new entrance, new heating system and new toilet facilities were included.

Two other important milestones were passed during this period. In the summer of 1961 the Tupper library joined the Clinton-Essex-Franklin Library System, which considerably increased not only the books available to readers, but which opened new sources of reference material for students and adults alike. The second major step was the granting on July 28, 1963 of a new, permanent charter — the library having operated under a provisional charter since 1932.

Mrs. Grace Simmons served 15 years as librarian was succeeded by Mrs. Carolyn Dening who served until October, 1975 when she retired and was in turn followed by Mrs. Chalice Dechene. In recognition of Mrs. Simmons' dedicated service, the board constructed an additional room which was dedicated on April 25, 1969. The Grace Simmons Memorial Room housed the Charles A. Sleicher collection of Adirondack books, and the microfilmed files of the Tupper Lake Free Press dating back to 1911. Furnishings included University chairs, the gifts of friends of the library; an antique refectory table, dating back more than two centuries, and original oil paintings of Ampersand Brook and Mt. Seward and Spectacle Ponds, painted by Louis Simmons.

The library board planned to improve the exterior of the old primary school and sell the library lot on Park St., when an unexpected bequest was announced. The library had been designated for a bequest from the Goff-Nelson estate for about $150,000, to be used for the construction of a new, fireproof building to house the library. The donor was the late Mrs. George (Charity Goff) Nelson, a lifelong Tupper Lake resident and staunch supporter of the library for many years.

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TRAILBLAZER

Goff-Nelson Memorial Library: A Close Up Look Continued

The property at 41 Lake St., including the former town hall building, was offered by the town board at a price of $15,000 and was accepted as the site for the new building. The contract was awarded in 1970 to raze the old town hall. The design for the current Goff-Nelson Memorial Library is one-story, spacious and open, without any interior support, affording a sweeping view of Raquette Pond and Mt. Matumbla. The new building was dedicated on May 29, 1972.

The Goff-Nelson Memorial Library continues to be a multi-purpose facility. Its community room serves as an auditorium for library programs; a voting place; a location for Red Cross Blood Drives; a space for performances of Adirondack Storytellers and musicians; the setting for the annual Art Show, Quilt Show, and various children’s program.


The collection of about 40,000 items was automated in 2010.


Bookmobile Moves on to Serve Clinton County Emergency Services

At their January 28 meeting, the Board of Trustees of the Clinton-Essex-Franklin Library System voted to transfer ownership of the bookmobile to Clinton County. The bookmobile, which was removed from service in December 2011 due to cost considerations, will serve as a command vehicle for Clinton County’s Office of Emergency Services.

System director Ewa Jankowska noted that, “Since the bookmobile was paid for by local taxpayer dollars, we felt that it was important to return it to serve a local need.” The vehicle, which is in sound mechanical and cosmetic condition, is equipped with its own on-board generator. Eric Day, Director of the Clinton County Office of Emergency Services, said he plans to repurpose the vehicle with the necessary communications gear and other accessories to make the unit functional as a Mobile Command Vehicle.

Mr. Day added, “We look forward to getting the vehicle and starting the process of conversion. The plan is a sort of grass roots effort and I have a number of agencies that have already volunteered ideas, labor and even materials and equipment needed to convert the vehicle. I expect the project will take us several months but in the end I am confident we will have a reliable and useful resource thanks to you folks.”

Ewa Jankowska noted that, “It really is a bittersweet ending to an era. We’re sad to see the bookmobile go, but we are pleased that it will have a good home. We’re sure that it will provide many years of service to north country residents.”

Calling All Grantseekers

CEF has renewed our subscription to Grantstation. The interactive web site allows grant seekers to identify potential funding sources through access to a searchable database of “thousands of foundation and corporate grant makers that are actively accepting proposals.”

Member library staff members are welcome to explore this terrific resource that is available by password on a CEF workstation.

For more information or to book a work session and tutorial, please call Julie Wever or Karen Batchelder at CEFLS. We will search the Grantstation database for you by topic, but we really encourage potential grant seekers to take this new resource for a personal spin.
We are excited to be fielding two teams for the eighth annual TABOB competition. Our teams of “tween” readers will be reading and working hard throughout the spring to prepare for the “Battle of the Books” at the end of June.

As usual, we have lots of programs on offer for residents of all ages. Our Book Discussion Group meets on the fourth Tuesday of the month at 1:00 p.m. Our March title is Last Night at the Lobster by Stewart O’Nan.

We are currently offering “drop in crafts” for kids on Saturday from 11:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Many families enjoy this opportunity to warm up and make a craft. A different theme is featured each week. On Saturday, March 2, we celebrated Dr. Seuss’ birthday with birthday cake and a special showing of Horton Hears a Who.

Our monthly computer class is held on the first Wednesday of every month from 10:30 a.m. to noon. Each month we explore a different topic, from beginning computers and the Internet, setting up an e-mail account, and web browsing to MS Word. For those that don’t have their own laptop, we provide one to use during the class. In addition to the monthly class, we offer computer assistance every Thursday from 5:00 to 7:30 p.m. Residents can stop in to receive one-on-one assistance with computer and technology questions.

March Movie Madness is coming to the library. Every Saturday in March we will offer two movie showings and we expect an enthusiastic crowd for each. The 12:30 screening features popular movies for children, and the 7:00 p.m. show will appeal to adults and teens.

Bring your knitting needles and yarn to the library on Tuesday, March 12 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. for a Knitting For Beginner’s class. Participants will learn basic knit one pearl two and, by the end of this one day class, will be well on their way to completing their first project – a warm, cozy, hat.

More from Essex County...

Schroon Lake Public Library

NLM Consumer Health Information Workshops Scheduled

As part of CEFLS’s “umbrella” consumer health information project, we have arranged to host two exciting workshops by the staff of the National Network of Libraries of Medicine. Please save Monday, April 23 as the date to join us at CEFLS Headquarters in Plattsburgh for one or both of the hands on workshops described below. Space at Each session in limited to 10 participants.

Monday, April 23
Morning 9AM-12 p.m.
Beyond an Apple a Day: Providing Consumer Health Information at Your Library (3 hours)

This hands-on class will cover the health information seeking behavior of consumers and the role of the librarian in the provision of health information for the public. Come learn about the evolution of consumer health, health literacy and the e-patient. Participants will be equipped with knowledge of top consumer health sites, e-patient resources and collection development core lists. We will discuss creative ideas for health information outreach.

Register: http://nnlm.gov/mar/training/register.html?schedule_id=2157

Afternoon 1:00 to -4:00 p.m.
Caring for the Mind: Providing Mental Health Information at Your Library (3 hours)

Responding to questions involving topics on mental health is challenging even for the most experienced librarian. In this session, participants will learn how to effectively provide mental health information at their libraries. Participants will learn about the best electronic resources to consult as well as ways to improve their print collections. Best approaches for handling interactions with emotional patrons will also be discussed. Other topics covered include: bibliotherapy; assessment/testing; and the future of mental health. This class will increase participants’ skills for providing mental health information for care providers and the public.

Register: http://nnlm.gov/mar/training/register.html?schedule_id=2155

----excerpted from Schroon Lake Library’s Spring Newsletter; Jane Bouchard, Director
ADK CF Book Talk

When Suzanne Orlando, Librarian at the Adirondack Correctional Facility in Ray Brook invited me to participate in a “Making Sense of the American Civil War” book discussion group, along with inmates and members of the staff, I was intrigued by the opportunity to discuss such a significant topic in such a unique setting. Not since high school had I studied our nation’s bloodiest war and I had never attended a book discussion group inside the walls of a correctional facility.

Through a grant from the New York Council for the Humanities, Suzanne obtained March by Geraldine Brooks, Crossroads of Freedom: Antietam by James McPherson, and America’s War: Talking About the Civil War and Emancipation on their 150th Anniversaries edited by Edward L. Ayers. These books informed the discussion, which was guided by Professor Jim Howard. Beyond the statistics and records of war, the group focused on some tough questions. What were the causes of this long, costly conflict? What role did the issue of slavery play? Could a civil war ever happen again in this country? What would it take, on a personal level, to justify such a war?

I would be remiss if I did not comment specifically on the experience of meeting and sharing discussions with a group of eight to ten inmates at the Adirondack Correctional Facility. What I observed was a group of men who are making an effort better themselves. I would like to thank Suzanne and the staff for the opportunity to participate in this perspective changing experience.

-Chad Chase, CEFLS

Survey Says

Did you know that when asked to tell us what three CEFLS services are more important, respondents to our 2012 Annual Member Library Survey identified the Van Delivery, Horizon Catalog and Circulation System and Consultant Services as the most crucial. Most comments told us “It’s hard to pick just three!”

We enjoyed a 100% response rate again this year. System staff members are busy taking a look at the results and will be busy planning service responses. We appreciate your feedback!

More Essex County news...

Keene Valley Library Association

The Keene Valley Library maintains a strong partnership with the Keene Central School, which is located a block from the library. Students from grade K through six come to the library on Wednesdays with their class; the library is not open to the public on that day. Students are given mini grade-appropriate lessons in library use, care and feeding of books, differences between fiction and non-fiction, how to use the catalog and how to request books from other libraries. The goal of the program is for students to be independent library users by grade 6. After the lesson, students choose books for the week and enthusiastically recommend books to each other. Reading is contagious! The Library has been used as a resource for KCS students in many ways including local history projects, gallery space for art classes, a space for Regents testing, a place for students to do community service, for information for music class and social studies research, and a haven where juvenile and teen readers can maintain reading levels with Summer Reading Program resources and activities.

Whether there are six more weeks of winter or eight, we still have plenty of time to gather for a few programs at the library.

Knit and Purl

On Thursday, March 7, we will hold Knit and Purl Day. This is a full day handwork workshop. Everyone is invited to come in anytime during the day and work with instructors to learn to knit or crochet. There will be yarn and needles available. A teacher for advanced knitters will be available in the morning and in the later part of the afternoon, there will be crochet teachers available as well. Beginners will have patient teachers all day. In the evening from 7:00 to 0:00 p.m., we will enjoy a knitting (and crocheting) circle. Everyone is welcome. Bring your project or start a new one. There will be plenty of books, needles and yarn handy.

Town Chat

Bill Ferebee, town supervisor, returns to answer questions and share ideas and concerns around and about town on the third Tuesday in March.

Meditation

This is a wonderful way to begin the day. We meet on Tuesday mornings at 8:00 a.m. in the main reading room of the library. Everyone is welcome; no experience is needed.

---Karen Glass, Director
Franklin County News

Wead Library, Malone

Wead Library had a very busy Christmas season. The library hosted a free Christmas ornament workshop on Saturday, November 17. The participants had a great time making a "take home" ornament, and received instructions on how to make more at home. The library teen advisory board hosted a Christmas story hour, where teens read to younger children on the night that Santa arrived on Malone’s Arsenal Green.

On Friday, February 1 and Saturday February 2, we held a program to benefit the children’s room. The teen advisory board helped set up the book sale. The library hosted a "Viking visit" for kids on Wednesday February 6. A few local experts gave a free program on Viking lore, and demonstrated shields, helmets, weapons, and clothing. Story hours began during the week of January 28, and will continue Tuesday evenings, Wednesday mornings, and Thursday mornings through May.

-Sue Wool, Director

Teen Program Site Launched by ALA

The Young Adult Library Services Association (YALSA) is launching the 2013 Teen Summer Reading Programs website. As the “hub for summer reading and summer learning”, the web site offers a place to go to exchange information and ideas for programs for teens.

The web site is funded by the Dollar General Literacy Foundation, which also provides grants for summer reading programs. To join and access the materials available on the YALSA Teen Summer Reading Programs site, visit www.summerreading.ning.com. The web site will continue to be updated throughout the spring and summer and is a great place to share ideas and brainstorm with fellow teen services librarians and library workers.

Lake Placid Public Library

Free tax preparation services donated by AARP volunteers has become a very popular service here at the Lake Placid Public Library. This is the ninth year that the group has volunteered its expertise. Headed up by Betsey Senkowski, the preparers are all trained by the IRS and take a refresher course and exam on updates to the tax code each year.

The rooms of our non-fiction area are alive with activity on tax prep days, with some volunteers checking people in and getting the preliminary paperwork together while three others sit with taxpayers and do the actual filing. “We are grateful to these volunteers,” said LPPL President Beverley Reid, recently. They put in incredible hours, helping hundreds of people each year. It benefits us by bringing people who might not otherwise use our services into our library, and we hope they come back.”

The library is hosting a display of Chinese artifacts collected by Judith Coopy of Bloomingdale, who taught at university there for 12 years before retiring to the north country. The child’s slippers are decorated to look like lions to protect the little wearers from dangerous beasts.

-Lisa Forrest, LPPL

AARP volunteers efile for two to three hundred tax payers each year, working out of the Lake Placid Public Library.

An exhibit of unique paintings of the Adirondacks by Melissa Hood has been attracting viewers this winter.

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Saranac Lake Free Library

Winter programming is in full swing at the Saranac Lake Free Library.

- An informal book group, coordinated by staff member Judy Oehler, started on February 19. Participants will discuss books and authors published during the 1920s, and the times these books reflect.

- Children at Story Time, held each Thursday at 10:30 a.m., recently made Clifford, the big red dog, decorations and enjoyed Clifford stories for his 50th birthday. In recognition of National Children’s Dental Health Month, Suzanne Snizek, school hygienist, will appear as the tooth fairy on Feb. 28, reading stories and encouraging children to think about dental care.

- The Thursday Library Luncheon Series continues at noon every other Thursday with a variety of topics. Feb. 28 is Barging on the Waterways of France, while March 14 will be Travels in Peru. Around 40 to 50 people usually attend. Homemade cookies and beverages are provided by the Hospitality Committee.

Each month we feature books on a front shelf to encourage patrons to take out books on different topics and by authors they may be unfamiliar with. For Valentine’s Day we featured Blind Date With a Book! “Take a Chance,” the sign says. Books are wrapped in plain paper, decorated with hearts, and each book has a clue, such as “Sleuthing in the Sun” (for The No. 1 Ladies’ Detective Agency by Alexander McCall Smith).

Two staff members and two volunteers attended the Literacy Workshop presented by the CEFLS at the SLFL on January 14. Ann Sayers and Karen B. Armstrong presented a lively workshop with the day flying by. They recommended many books and ideas to improve family literacy. We have already incorporated several suggestions, setting up a section in the children’s room for adult parenting books, and producing book lists that will be available in the children’s room.

--Pat Wiley, Library Assistant

CEFLS would like to thank Suzanne Orlando, Librarian at Adirondack Correctional Facility for including area public libraries in the Bridging Cultures opportunity.

More from Franklin County

ALA Awards 13 Bridging Cultures Bookshelves to CEFLS “Community”

Six local state correctional facilities, five CEFLS member libraries and the System Headquarters have each been awarded a Muslim Journeys Bookshelf from the American Library Association and the National Endowment for the Humanities. More than 800 libraries across the country have been granted this collection of 25 books and three films. The collection, which is part of the National Endowment for the Humanities “Bridging Cultures Initiative,” also includes a one year subscription to Oxford Islamic Studies Online, which will be hosted on the CEFLS web site where it will be accessible to all residents with a library card.

The purpose of this effort is to familiarize Americans with Islam and the cultural heritage of Islamic civilizations around the world. It is intended to address both the need and desire of the public for trustworthy and hospitable resources about Muslim beliefs and practices. Resources were selected especially for public audiences based on the advice of scholars, librarians, humanities educators and program practitioners.

Materials will be added to the CEFLS shared collection where they will be available for loan. Plans are in the works to acquire multiple copies of titles to facilitate reading and discussion groups. Librarians from participating correctional facilities will meet on March 20 for a day of training at CEFLS. Public library staff members are cordially invited to join this session which will introduce the bookshelf material and provide an opportunity to discuss ways in which libraries might share them with patrons. Stay tuned for more information about this great opportunity.

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Clinton Essex Franklin Library System 2013

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